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From: CN=Mary Hanley/OU=DC/O=USEPA/C=US

Sent: Fri 2/8/2013 6:58:59 PM

Subject: Fw: SEPW QFR - USE this EMAIL for Your Responses

[ATTHV98H.pdf](#)
[Responses to T & I questions on HF.pdf](#)
[Sen. Inhofe Response.pdf](#)
[Rep. Harris - 2.1.2012 Hearing Final QFR Responses.pdf](#)
[4.12.11 HF Hearing - Final QFRs responses. Chairrman Boxer.pdf](#)
[Inhofe Letter.pdf](#)
[12-001-2174.pdf](#)
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Another change to the line-up: OECA will take the lead on Inhofe #65, with Regions 3, 6, and 8 providing information specific to their cases to help complete the responses. OW welcomes an opportunity to review as well. Andrew Stewart is the OECA poc.

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 Cc: David Bloomgren/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Robert Delp/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Cynthia Fanning/R6/USEPA/US@EPA
 Date: 02/08/2013 12:42 PM
 Subject: Fw: SEPW QFR - USE this EMAIL for Your Responses

more... These are responses to Sen. Casey from over a year ago.

Dimock, PA Investigation

1. Q: Why did EPA get involved in Dimock? Is EPA's involvement an indicator that the state was not doing enough?

A: EPA visited Dimock, PA in late 2011, surveyed residents regarding the private wells and reviewed thousands of pages of drinking water data supplied to the Agency by some Dimock residents, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) and Cabot. Because some data showed contamination that presented a health concern, EPA took immediate action to ensure delivery of temporary water supplies to four homes until we were able to collect and analyze our own samples. Because the available third-party data was of uncertain quality and showed elevated levels of contaminants, including some organic compounds not normally found in groundwater, EPA determined that it was necessary to gather its own data and ensure that residents had access to safe drinking water.

2. Q: Didn't EPA say at one point that the water quality in Dimock did not present a health risk?

A: Data provided to EPA which included information from both PADEP and Cabot was reviewed by EPA in November 2011 and appeared to indicate that private well water posed no health concerns. At that time, EPA said that the Agency would continue to review the latest data. EPA subsequently received on December 6 from some residents additional data produced for Cabot that warranted a further review of the situation. Also, in the first week of December, in actions unrelated to the situation in Dimock, EPA changed some of its screening levels used for risk assessment, including lowering some values for a number of the chemicals found in the home wells at Dimock. This change, along with the Cabot data received in early December, led to the determination that a health concern existed at four homes.

3. Q: What authority is EPA using to further investigate Dimock drinking water quality?

A: EPA is investigating the Dimock situation under the authority of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act ("CERCLA"). Under CERCLA, EPA has the authority to investigate releases and potential releases of hazardous substances or pollutants or contaminants, including sampling, analysis and other testing that may be required. CERCLA also provides EPA with authority to respond where there is a health concern presented by the release of hazardous substances. An allowable response action includes the provision of alternate water.

4. Q: Is this the first time EPA has used its CERCLA authority to look into potential oil and gas contamination?

A: Since the signing of the CERCLA statute in 1980, EPA has responded to hundreds of sites all across the country to provide alternate water when contaminants posed a health concern to drinking water. Most recently after the well blow-out in Bradford Co., PA in April 2011, EPA used its CERCLA authority there to perform sampling and ensure the temporary provision of alternate water to several homes.

5. Q: Has EPA reached any conclusions in Dimock? EPA's last statement said that no health concerns were found – does that mean that EPA is done in Dimock?

A: EPA's goal was to provide the Dimock community with complete reliable information about the presence of contaminants in their drinking water and determine whether further action was warranted to protect public health. We have now completed sampling of 61 homes included in our assessment. That sampling conducted between January and March 2012 did not indicate levels of contaminants that would give EPA reason to take further action. In the three (3) instances where we found levels of arsenic or barium that exceeded MCLs, residents either declined our offer to provide water or had treatment systems that reduced levels at the tap. To provide certainty to residents, EPA re-sampled in May 2012 the four wells where previous Cabot and state data showed levels of contaminants that posed a health concern, such that EPA had provided alternate water. Those samples, and samples from three additional wells where we had difficulty scheduling earlier sampling, are currently undergoing the analytical and quality assurance process.

6. Q: Has EPA determined the source of the chemicals found in private wells?

A: EPA has not done any detailed review to determine the cause. Our focus has been first and foremost on the drinking water quality and the protection of the health of residents.

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Cc: David Bloomgren/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Robert Delp/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 02/08/2013 11:41 AM
Subject: Fw: SEPW QFR - USE this EMAIL for Your Responses

missing from the last email...

+ Andrew Stewart

Here is another set of previous QFRs, re: Inhoffe on Pavillion and Hisa.

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Cc: David Bloomgren/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Robert Delp/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
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Date: 02/08/2013 11:28 AM
Subject: Fw: SEPW QFR - USE this EMAIL for Your Responses

forwarding some previous QFRs.

----- Forwarded by Mary Hanley/DC/USEPA/US on 02/08/2013 11:28 AM -----

From: Mary Hanley/DC/USEPA/US
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Date: 02/08/2013 11:16 AM
Subject: Fw: SEPW QFR - USE this EMAIL for Your Responses

Here are recent answers on study, hisa ,etc.

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Date: 02/08/2013 11:12 AM
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This is coming to me piecemeal....

Inhofe's staff recently asked us to resend these responses on Range...

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Date: 02/08/2013 11:06 AM
Subject: Re: SEPW QFR - USE this EMAIL for Your Responses

Here are some previous responses that may be helpful in drafting your responses. The first document addresses Pavillion, the next one is a mix of issues. The second is a mix of issues but does include some responses to Inhoffe on the study and to Boxer on air issues.

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+ Andrew Stewart

Here is another in a series of previous QFRs that may be helpful. This one is Inhoffe on Pavillion and HISA

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Cc: David Bloomgren/DC/USEPA/US@EPA, Robert Delp/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 02/08/2013 09:42 AM
Subject: SEPW QFR - USE this EMAIL for Your Responses

Hello Again,

Whew.. okay, potential nightmare avoided!

This is a copy of the message I sent yesterday but now to the correct distribution group (including some folks who are covering for the pocs). Please be sure to reply to all with your responses. Thanks for your patience.

One change has been made to the line-up: ORD is the lead now for #62. Also, Jeanne pointed out that it is important to recognize that the QFRs were posed in July and not recently as that could change our understanding of what the requestor was actually asking. For any questions on the timing of this effort please feel call me.

Attached are the SEPW QFRs I mentioned in my earlier email. OCIR is providing these to me to send out so your OCIR contact probably has not seen this request. In light of the rush and the need to receive very concise responses I have been asked to circulate these. Please be sure to copy everyone on this email with your response since some folks will be reviewing responses in parallel with me. Please submit your responses (by replying to all) as early as you can Monday afternoon but definitely by COB Monday in Times Roman Numeral 12 pt. I appreciate your assistance and apologize for the rush.

Below are the fracking questions to focus on along with my "best guess" as to the offices that should be the lead in preparing a response and the offices that should contribute pieces to be added to the lead response. Please take a look at the questions and let me know if I guessed wrong and the line-up needs to be changed.

Also, if the lead office would leave placeholders in their response I can integrate the non-lead office pieces into the lead office's response when everything arrives.

In addition, I have asked OCIR to identify previous responses that can address some of the questions but I won't see that until tomorrow and I didn't want to hold up getting this around. I will send that around as soon as it arrives. Again, thank you. Let me know of any questions, etc.

Mary

INHOFE #60 OAR (there is a broad reference to Utility Mact)

INHOFE #60a - ORD lead, OSWER, OAR, OECA, Regions 3, 6, 8.

INHOFE #60b- ORD

INHOFE #60c- ORD

INHOFE #61 - OECA lead, Region 3, 6, 8.

INHOFE #62 - ORD lead, Region 8

INHOFE #63 - ORD lead, Region 8

INHOFE #65 - OW lead, OSWER, Regions 3, 6, 8, OECA.

VITTER # 5 - OGC lead, OECA, Region 6

SEPW QFRs

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